

Improved Position and Azimuth Determining System

DESCRIPTION

The M111 Improved Position and Azimuth Determining System (IPADS) is a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle-mounted, inertial navigation surveying system, which will be used by artillery survey parties as a secure, all-weather, day-night means for rapidly extending survey control to satisfy the demands of mobile weapons systems. IPADS, which does not rely on Global Positioning System (GPS), accurately aligns GPS-aided, self-locating firing elements on a common survey grid, enabling these firing elements to mass fires. IPADS will provide a highly mobile and accurate means of performing artillery survey. IPADS will determine location coordinates, altitude in meters, direction in mils, and will be capable of rapid and accurate self-alignment utilizing ring-laser gyros and accelerometers. The IPADS will replace the currently fielded AN/USQ-70 Position and Azimuth Determining System (PADS) in all Marine Corps artillery units.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

IPADS supports modernization of field artillery survey capabilities by replacing the obsolescent PADS that was fielded in the 1980s. The availability of PADS hardware and components is becoming increasingly problematic and will likely be unavailable as early as FY 2005.

PROGRAM STATUS

IPADS is an Army-led, joint interest program. IPADS is post Milestone C and commenced fielding in FY 2005. The Marine Corps received five units in FY 2005, which were distributed to commence cadre training in all artillery regiments. The three active Regiments, 10th, 11th, and 12th Marine Regiments have all been fully fielded. Fielding of the 14th Marines and supporting establishments will occur during FY 2007.

Procurement Profile:	FY 2006	FY 2007
Quantity:	63	0

Developer/Manufacturer:
L3 Communications, Budd Lake, NJ